

What is claimed is:

1. A method of searching for a help utility, comprising the steps of:
providing a utility search dialog;
inputting search keywords directed to one of a plurality of help utilities;
searching a database of a plurality of help utilities;
finding a help utility matching the keywords; and
executing the help utility.
2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
determining whether more than one help utility is found matching the keywords;
displaying all help utilities found to match the keywords; and
selecting one of all help utilities found to match keywords.
3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
if after the step of searching a database of a plurality of help utilities, no help utility is found matching the keywords, then providing the utility search dialog;
inputting additional keywords directed to one of the plurality of help utilities;
searching the database of a plurality of help utilities.
4. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
if after the step of searching a database of help utilities, a related help utility is found,
displaying the related help utility
invoking the related help utility.
inputting additional keywords directed to one of the plurality of help utilities;
searching the database of a plurality of help utilities.

5. The method of Claim 1, whereby the plurality of help utilities includes help utilities provided by a computer operating system.
6. The method of Claim 1, whereby the plurality of help utilities includes help utilities provided by a computer software application.
7. The method of Claim 4, wherein the interactive help utility is a wizard.
8. The method of Claim 4, wherein the interactive help utility is a help file.
9. The method of Claim 1, whereby the search terms may be input using a plurality of languages.
10. A method of searching for a function wizard, comprising the steps of:
providing a wizard search dialog;
inputting search keywords;
searching a database of wizards according to the search keywords;
finding a wizard matching the search keywords; and
invoking the wizard.
11. A method of searching for a function wizard, comprising the steps of:
providing a plurality of functions;
providing a wizard search dialog;
inputting search terms directed to one of the plurality of functions;
initiating a search for a function wizard matching one of the plurality of functions
based on the search terms;

finding a function wizard matching one of the plurality of functions; and
executing the function wizard.

12. A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions which when executed by a computer perform the steps of:

providing a utility search dialog;
inputting search keywords directed to one of a plurality of help utilities;
searching a database of a plurality of help utilities;
finding a help utility matching the keywords; and
executing the help utility.

13. The computer readable medium of Claim 12 having stored thereon computer-executable instructions which when executed by a computer further perform the steps of:

determining whether more than one help utility is found matching the keywords;
displaying all help utilities found to match the keywords; and
selecting one of all help utilities found to match keywords.

14. The computer readable medium of Claim 12 having stored thereon computer-executable instructions which when executed by a computer further perform the steps of:

if after the step of searching a database of a plurality of help utilities, no help utility is found matching the keywords, then providing the utility search dialog;
inputting additional keywords directed to one of the plurality of help utilities;
searching the database of a plurality of help utilities.

15. The computer readable medium of Claim 12 having stored thereon computer-executable instructions which when executed by a computer further perform the steps of:

if after the step of searching a database of a plurality of help utilities, a related help utility is found,

displaying the related help utility

invoking the related help utility.

inputting additional keywords directed to one of the plurality of help utilities;

searching the database of the plurality of help utilities.

16. A system for searching for an help utility, comprising a computer program module operative:

to provide a utility search dialog;

to input search terms directed to one of a plurality of help utilities;

to search a database of the plurality of help utilities;

to find the help utility matching one of the search terms; and

to execute the help utility.

17. The computer program module of Claim 16, further operative:

to determine whether more than one help utility is found matching one of the search terms;

to display all help utilities found to match one of the search terms; and

to select one of all help utilities found to match one of the search terms.

18. The computer program module of Claim 16, further operative:

if after the step of searching a database of a plurality of help utilities, no help utility is found matching one of the search terms, to provide the utility search dialog;

to input additional search terms directed to one of the plurality of help utilities;

to search the database of a plurality of help utilities.

19. The computer program module of Claim 16, further operative:
- if after the step of searching a database of a plurality of help utilities, a related help utility is found, to display the related help utility
 - to invoke the related help utility.
 - to input additional search terms directed to one of the plurality of help utilities; and
 - to search the database of the plurality of functions.